

Chronology of Chinese History

I. Prehistory

Neolithic Period	ca. 8000-2000 BCE
Xia (Hsia)?	Trad. 2200-1766 BCE

II. The Classical Age (Ancient China)

Shang Dynasty	ca. 1600-1045 BCE (Trad. 1766-1122 BCE)
Zhou (Chou) Dynasty	ca. 1045-256 BCE (Trad. 1122-256 BCE)
Western Zhou (Chou)	ca. 1045-771 BCE
Eastern Zhou (Chou)	770-256 BCE
Spring and Autumn Period	722-468 BCE (770-404 BCE)
Warring States Period	403-221 BCE

III. The Imperial Era (Imperial China)

Qin (Ch'in) Dynasty	221-207 BCE
Han Dynasty	202 BCE-220 CE
Western (or Former) Han Dynasty	202 BCE-9 CE
Xin (Hsin) Dynasty	9-23
Eastern (or Later) Han Dynasty	25-220
1st Period of Division	220-589
The Three Kingdoms	220-265
Shu	221-263
Wei	220-265
Wu	222-280
Jin (Chin) Dynasty	265-420
Western Jin (Chin)	265-317
Eastern Jin (Chin)	317-420
Southern Dynasties	420-589
Former (or Liu) Song (Sung)	420-479
Southern Qi (Ch'i)	479-502
Southern Liang	502-557
Southern Chen (Ch'en)	557-589
Northern Dynasties	317-589
Sixteen Kingdoms	317-386
NW Dynasties	
Former Liang	314-376, Chinese/Gansu
Later Liang	386-403, Di/Gansu
S. Liang	397-414, Xianbei/Gansu
W. Liang	400-422, Chinese/Gansu
N. Liang	398-439, Xiongnu?/Gansu
North Central Dynasties	
Chang Han	304-347, Di/Hebei
Former Zhao (Chao)	304-329, Xiongnu/Shanxi
Later Zhao (Chao)	319-351, Jie/Hebei
W. Qin (Ch'in)	365-431, Xianbei/Gansu & Shaanxi
Former Qin (Ch'in)	349-394, Di/Shaanxi
Later Qin (Ch'in)	384-417, Qiang/Shaanxi
Xia (Hsia)	407-431, Xiongnu/Shaanxi
Northeast Dynasties	
Former Yan (Yen)	333-370, Xianbei/Hebei
Later Yan (Yen)	384-409, Xianbei/Hebei
S. Yan (Yen)	398-410, Xianbei/Shandong
N. Yan (Yen)	409-436, Chinese/Liaoning
Northern (Latter) Wei	386-534, Xianbei (Tuoba)
Eastern Wei	534-550, Xianbei
Western Wei	535-556, Xianbei
Northern Qi (Ch'i)	550-577, Xianbei
Northern Zhou (Chou)	557-581, Xianbei

Sui Dynasty	581-589-618
Tang (T'ang) Dynasty	618-907
2nd Period of Division	907-1279
The Five Dynasties	907-960
Later Liang	907-923
Later Tang (T'ang)	923-936
Later Ji (Chi)	936-947
Later Han	947-950
Later Zhou (Chou)	951-960
Liao Dynasty	907-916-1125, Khitan
Song (Sung) Dynasty	960-1279
Northern Song (Sung)	960-1126
Southern Song (Sung)	1127-1279
Xi Xia (Hsi-Hsia) Dynasty	1038-1227, Tangut
Jin (Chin) Dynasty	1115-1234, Jurchen
Yuan Dynasty	1260-1279-1368, Mongol
Ming Dynasty	1368-1644
Qing (Ch'ing) Dynasty	1644-1911, Manchu

IV. The Modern Period

Republic of China	1912-present (only controls Taiwan after 1949)
People's Republic of China	1949-present